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TITLE How To Talk to Your Kids about Really Important Things: For Children Four to Twelve. Specific Questions and Answers and Useful Things To Say.
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DESCRIPTORS Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome; Adolescents; Adoption; Child Development; *Childhood Needs; Child Rearing; Children; Death; Divorce; Drinking; Drug Use; *Family Problems; Health; Homosexuality; Mental Health; *Parent Child Relationship; *Parent Influence; *Parenting Skills; Pornography; Sexual Abuse; Sexual Identity; Stepfamily; War

ABSTRACT

Intended to help parents find the words they need to talk to their children and answer their children's practical questions, this book offers practical guidance on a wide range of life's experiences, from family changes such as divorce and remarriage, to controversial subjects such as child abuse and AIDS. The major focus is on children ages 4 to 12; these are the formative years, when children are developing the foundation for basic beliefs, values, and attitudes, and are usually most open to and interested in receiving parental guidance. The book is divided into two parts. Part 1 deals with major crises and big family changes including those related to adoption, an alcoholic parent, death, accidents and natural catastrophes, divorce, the first day of school, a new house, a new baby in the family, and grade repetition. The second part of the book deals with youth concerns, including death, drug abuse, AIDS, homosexuality, prejudice, puberty, sex and reproduction, media violence, and war. Each chapter contains specific guidelines appropriate for the given topic and suggested readings for parents and children. (AA)

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